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OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW
OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
Second session
21-24 February 1995

WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP

The present document contains, in the left column, the text of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 February 1968, entitled "Arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations". In the right column is the text of a proposed draft resolution for the consideration of the Working Group. Text reproduced in bold in that column indicates the introduction of new or revised wording from that of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

95-00261 (E)

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No introductory remarks were made in the Annex to resolution 1296 (XLIV)

PART I

CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Introduction

1. The growth of civil society and the changes in the NGO sector, including the emergence of a large number of national and regional organizations and networks, particularly in developing countries; the re-emergence of NGOs in transition economy countries; and the establishment of new partnerships between NGOs in developed and developing countries have created vast new opportunities for building a stronger and closer partnership between the United Nations and the NGO community for economic, social and sustainable development and for the promotion of human rights. In this connection, it is recognized that there is a need to strike a more equitable balance in the United Nations/NGO relationship among NGOs from developed and developing countries; NGOs at the global, regional and national levels; and national and international NGOs. This balance should take into account the participation of NGOs in the preparatory phase of United Nations conferences, the conferences themselves and their implementation phase. The

capacity of NGOs to mobilize resources, play an advocacy role, provide policy analysis, plan and carry out projects and programmes, deliver emergency and humanitarian assistance and monitor and participate in the implementation of international agreements and programmes of action should be utilized by the United Nations. To this end, the full institutional, cultural, thematic and functional diversity of NGOs should be encompassed and the contribution of academic institutions and organizations representing the major groups identified in Agenda 21, including the private sector, should be obtained. Every effort should be made to enhance the participation of national NGOs, particularly from developing and transition countries, in the development activities of the United Nations. In order for NGOs from developing and transition countries to be involved meaningfully in the activities of the United Nations, all sources of funding for their participation should be explored.

2. The relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations is an evolving one. It must be built on and enhanced, taking into account the increasingly important role being played

by non-State actors in contemporary society. The United Nations should enhance the contribution of NGOs to its work with a view to furthering the ideals and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, while seeking to obtain expert advice from NGOs and acknowledging their role as disseminators of information. To this end, the role of NGOs at all levels and in all areas of United Nations activities is recognized and every effort should be made to ensure their greater involvement in these activities.

3. Non-governmental organizations are also increasingly active in the areas of peace, security, disarmament and finance. The Council therefore recommends to the General Assembly to consider, in light of the experience of the last several years and the results of the present review, appropriate ways and means of enhancing the contribution of NGOs to the work of the Assembly and to that of its main committees and subsidiary bodies in these and other relevant fields.

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	PART II
	ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH NGOS
PART I	Section 1
Principles to be applied in the establishment of consultative relations	Principles to be applied in the establishment of consultative relations
The following principles shall be applied in establishing consultative relations with non-governmental organizations	
1. The organization shall be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health, scientific, technological and related matters and to questions of human rights.	4. The organization shall be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council with respect to **global economic, social, environmental and related matters falling within the competence of the Council and to humanitarian and human rights issues.**
2. The aims and purposes of the organization shall be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.	5. **No change**
3. The organization shall undertake to support the work of the United Nations and to promote knowledge of its principles and activities, in accordance with its own	6. No change

aims and purposes and the nature and scope of its competence and activities.

[Three new paragraphs as follows:]

7. Non-governmental organizations shall include private voluntary organizations, major groups as defined in Agenda 21, advocacy groups, service organizations, organizations representing indigenous peoples, foundations, research institutions and religious organizations, and not-for-profit entities representing business organizations.

8. Consultative relationships may be established with international, regional and national organizations, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and criteria established under the present resolution.

9. Regional and national organizations, particularly from developing and transition economy countries, which are not affiliated to an international organization already in status, may be admitted provided that they can demonstrate that their programme of work is of direct relevance to the aims and purposes of the United Nations and, in the

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case of national organizations, after consultation with the Member State concerned.

[Reformulation of paragraph 7 of resolution 1296 (XLIV)]

10. Any such organization which is not established by any governmental entity or intergovernmental agreement shall be considered as a non-governmental organization for the purpose of these arrangements, including organizations which accept members designated by governmental authorities, provided that such membership does not interfere with the free expression of views of the organization.

4. The organization shall be of representative character and of recognized international standing; it shall represent a substantial proportion, and express the views of major sections, of the population or of the organized persons within the particular field of its competence, covering, where possible, a substantial number of countries in different regions of the world. Where there exist a number of organizations with similar objectives, interests and basic views in a given field, they shall, for the purposes of

11. The organization shall be of representative character and of recognized standing; it shall represent a substantial proportion, and express the views of major sections, of the population or of the organized persons within the particular field of its competence. Where there exist a number of organizations with similar objectives, interests and basic views in a given field, they shall, for the purposes of consultation with the Council, form a joint committee or other

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consultation with the Council, form a joint committee or other body authorized to carry on such consultation for the group as a whole. It is understood that when a minority opinion develops on a particular point within such a committee, it shall be presented along with the opinion of the majority.	body authorized to carry on such consultation for the group as a whole.
5. The organization shall have an established headquarters, with an executive officer. It shall have a democratically adopted constitution, a copy of which shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and which shall provide for the determination of policy by a conference, congress or other representative body, and for an executive organ responsible to the policy-making body.	12. **No change**
6. The organization shall have authority to speak for its members through its authorized representatives. Evidence of this authority shall be presented, if requested.	13. **No change**
7. Subject to paragraph 9 below, the organization shall be international in its structure, with members who exercise voting rights in relation to the policies or action of the international	**Reformulated (see paragraph 10 above)**

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organization. Any international organization which is not established by intergovernmental agreement shall be considered as a non-governmental organization for the purpose of these arrangements, including organizations which accept members designated by governmental authorities, provided that such membership does not interfere with the free expression of views of the organization.

8. The basic resources of the international organization shall be derived in the main part from contributions of the national affiliates or other components or from individual members. Where voluntary contributions have been received, their amounts and donors shall be faithfully revealed to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. Where, however, the above criterion is not fulfilled and an organization is financed from other sources, it must explain to the satisfaction of the Committee its reasons for not meeting the requirements laid down in this paragraph. Any financial contribution or other support, direct or indirect, from a Government to the international organization shall be openly declared to the Committee through the Secretary-General and fully recorded in the financial and other records of the

14. **No change**

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organization and shall be devoted to purposes in accordance with the aims of the United Nations.	
9. National organizations shall normally present their views through international non-governmental organizations to which they belong. It would not, save in exceptional cases, be appropriate to admit national organizations which are affiliated to an international non-governmental organization covering the same subjects on an international basis. National organizations, however, may be admitted after consultation with the Member State concerned in order to help achieve a balanced and effective representation of non-governmental organizations reflecting major interests of all regions and areas of the world, or where they have special experience upon which the Council may wish to draw.	15. **National organizations which are affiliated to an international or regional NGO covering the same subjects shall not be admitted save in exceptional cases.**
10. Consultative arrangements shall not normally be made with an international organization which is a member of a committee or group composed of international organizations with which consultative arrangements have been made.	16. **No change**
11. In considering the establishment of consultative relations with a	17. **No change**

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non-governmental organization, the Council will take into account whether the field of activity of the organization is wholly or mainly within the field of a specialized agency, and whether or not it could be admitted when it has, or may have, a consultative arrangement with a specialized agency.

[Three new paragraphs as follows:]

18. The provisions of the present resolution shall apply to the United Nations regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies mutatis mutandis. Accordingly, supportive secretariat arrangements should be put in place at the headquarters of each regional commission.

19. The Economic and Social Council invites the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA and UNICEF and the [Executive Board] of WFP to examine ways and means of strengthening their cooperation with non-governmental organizations at the national and regional levels in relation to operational activities within the framework of the implementation of Assembly resolution 47/199.

20. The Council invites the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to

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	examine the principles and practices in relation to their cooperation with NGOs and to take the necessary action to harmonize them wherever possible in the light of the provisions of the present resolution.
Part II PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS	Section 2 <u>Principles governing the nature of the consultative arrangements</u>
12. A clear distinction is drawn in the Charter of the United Nations between participation without vote in the deliberations of the Council and the arrangements for consultation. Under Articles 69 and 70, participation is provided for only in the case of States not members of the Council, and of specialized agencies. Article 71, applying to non-governmental organizations, provides for suitable arrangements for consultation. This distinction, deliberately made in the Charter, is fundamental and the arrangements for consultation should not be such as to accord to non-governmental organizations the same rights of	21. **No change**

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participation as are accorded to States not members of the Council and to the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations.	
13. The arrangements should not be such as to overburden the Council or transform it from a body for coordination of policy and action, as contemplated in the Charter, into a general forum for discussion.	22. **No change**
14. Decisions on arrangements for consultation should be guided by the principle that consultative arrangements are to be made, on the one hand, for the purpose of enabling the Council or one of its bodies to secure expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the subjects for which consultative arrangements are made, and, on the other hand, to enable organizations which represent important elements of public opinion in a large number of countries to express their views. Therefore, the arrangements for consultation made with each organization should involve only the subjects for which that organization has a special competence or in which it has a special interest. The organizations given consultative status should be limited to those whose	23. Decisions on arrangements for consultation should be guided by the principle that consultative arrangements are to be made, on the one hand, for the purpose of enabling the Council or one of its bodies to secure expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the subjects for which consultative arrangements are made, and, on the other hand, to enable organizations which represent important elements of public opinion in a large number of countries to express their views. Therefore, the arrangements for consultation made with each organization should involve only the subjects for which that organization has a special competence or in which it has a special interest. The organizations given consultative status should be those whose activities in

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international activities in fields set out in paragraph 1 above qualify them to make a significant contribution to the work of the Council and should, in sum, as far as possible reflect in a balanced way the major viewpoints or interests in these fields in all areas and regions of the world.

Part III

ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

15. In establishing consultative relationships with each organization, regard shall be had to the nature and scope of its activities and to the assistance it may be expected to give to the Council or its subsidiary bodies in carrying out the functions set out in Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations.

16. In establishing consultative relations with organizations, the Council will distinguish between:

(a) Organizations which are concerned with most of the

fields set out in **paragraph 4** above qualify them to make a significant contribution to the work of the Council and should, in sum, as far as possible reflect in a balanced way the major viewpoints or interests in these fields in all areas and regions of the world.

Section 3

Establishment of consultative relationships

24. **No change**

25. In establishing consultative relations with organizations, the Council will distinguish between:

OPTION #1

(a) Organizations which are concerned with most of the

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activities of the Council and can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council that they have marked and sustained contributions to make to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations in the fields set out in paragraph 1 above, and are closely involved with the economic and social life of the peoples of the areas they represent and whose membership, which should be considerable, is broadly representative of major segments of population in a large number of countries (to be known as organizations in general consultative status, category I);	activities of the Council **and its subsidiary bodies** and can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council that they have **substantive** and sustained contributions to make to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations in the fields as set out in **paragraph 4** above, and are closely involved with the economic and social life of the peoples of the areas they represent and whose membership, which should be considerable, is broadly representative of major segments of population in a large number of countries **in different regions of the world** (to be known as organizations in general consultative status);
(b) Organizations which have a special competence in, and are concerned specifically with, only a few of the fields of activity covered by the Council, and which are known internationally within the fields for which they have or seek consultative status (to be known as organizations in	(b) Organizations which have a special competence in, and are concerned specifically with, only a few of the fields of activity covered by the Council **and its subsidiary bodies**, and which are known internationally **or regionally** within the fields for which they have or seek consultative status (to be known

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special consultative status, category II).	as organizations in special consultative status).
	OPTION #2
	A system of categorization of non-governmental organizations based on the functions and areas of specialization of the NGOs. Such a system could be organized according to two main clusters: the "specialized" group, to be subdivided into (i) academic/research organizations; (ii) major groups as defined in Agenda 21; and (iii) specialized groups, and the "general" group, to be subdivided into "advocacy and information groups" and "international federations".
	OPTION #3
	Categories should be eliminated and replaced with the concept of eligibility, with the result that all organizations would be equal as regards to their participatory rights.

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17. Organizations accorded consultative status in category II because of their interest in the field of human rights should have a general international concern with this matter, not restricted to the interests of a particular group of persons, a single nationality or the situation in a single State or restricted group of States. Special consideration shall be given to the applications of organizations in this field whose aims place stress on combating colonialism, apartheid, racial intolerance and other gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.	26. Organizations accorded **special consultative status** because of their interest in the field of human rights should have a general international concern with this matter. Special consideration shall be given to the applications of organizations in this field whose aims place stress on combating racial intolerance and other gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
18. Major organizations one of whose primary purposes is to promote the aims, objectives and purposes of the United Nations and a furtherance of the understanding of its work may be accorded consultative status in category II.	**Deleted**
19. Other organizations which do not have general or special consultative status but which the Council, or the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations considers can make occasional and useful contributions to the work of the Council or its subsidiary	27. Other organizations, **including in particular national organizations,** which do not have general or special consultative status but which the Council, or the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations considers can make occasional and useful contributions to the

bodies or other United Nations bodies within their competence shall be included in a list (to be known as the Roster). This list may also include organizations in consultative status or similar relationship with a specialized agency or a United Nations body. These organizations shall be available for consultation at the request of the Council or its subsidiary bodies. The fact that an organization is on the Roster shall not in itself be regarded as a qualification for general or special consultative status should an organization seek such status.

Part IV

CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNCIL

Provisional agenda

20. The provisional agenda of the Council shall be communicated to organizations in categories I and II and to those on the Roster.

21. Organizations in **category I** may propose to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations that the

work of the Council or its subsidiary bodies or other United Nations bodies within their competence shall be included in a list (to be known as the Roster). This list may also include organizations in consultative status or similar relationship with a specialized agency or a United Nations body. These organizations shall be available for consultation at the request of the Council or its subsidiary bodies. The fact that an organization is on the Roster shall not in itself be regarded as a qualification for general or special consultative status should an organization seek such status.

Section 4

Consultation with the Council

Provisional agenda

28. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**

29. **Only change: category I to read consultative status.**

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Committee request the Secretary-General to place items of special interest to the organizations on the provisional agenda of the Council.

Attendance at meetings

22. Organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Council and its subsidiary bodies. Those on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Written statements

23. Written statements relevant to the work of the Council may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects in which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements

Attendance at meetings

30. Organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Council and its subsidiary bodies. Those on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings concerned with matters within their field of competence. **These attendance arrangements may be supplemented to include modalities of participation such as hearings, roundtables, panel discussions, seminars, government dialogues with NGOs and other mechanisms.**

Written statements

31. Written statements relevant to the work of the Council may be submitted by organizations **in accordance with the provisions outlined below** on subjects in which these organizations have a special

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shall be circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the members of the Council, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which had already been circulated in some other form.	competence. **Subject to available resources,** such statements shall be circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the members of the Council, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which had already been circulated in some other form.
24. The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such statements:	32. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**
(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages.	(a) **No change**
(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Secretary-General and the organization before circulation.	(b) **No change**
(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Secretary-General may make in the course of such	(c) **No change**

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consultation before transmitting the statement in final form.	
(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organizations shall submit a summary which will be circulated or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon a specific request of the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.	(d) **Only change: category I to read consultative status.**
(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II or on the Roster will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 500 words, the organization shall submit a summary which will be circulated; such statements will be circulated in full, however, upon a specific request of the	(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in **special consultative status** will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 500 words, the organization shall submit a summary which will be circulated; such statements will be circulated in full, however, upon a specific request of the

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Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.	Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.
(f) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Council, or the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements.	(f) **No change**
(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Secretary-General in the working languages, and, upon the request of a member of the Council, in any of the official languages.	(g) **No change**
Hearings	Hearings
25. (a) The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall make recommendations to the Council as to which organizations in category I should be heard by the Council or by its sessional committees	33. (a) **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**

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and on which items they should be heard. Such organizations shall be entitled to make one statement to the Council or the appropriate sessional committee, subject to the approval of the Council or of the sessional committee concerned. In the absence of a subsidiary body of the Council with jurisdiction in a major field of interest to the Council and to an organization in category II, the Committee may recommend that an organization in category II be heard by the Council on the subject in its field of interest.

(b) Whenever the Council discusses the substance of an item proposed by a non-governmental organization in category I and included in the agenda of the Council, such an organization shall be entitled to present orally to the Council or a sessional committee of the Council, as appropriate, an introductory statement of an expository nature. Such an organization may be invited by

(b) **Only change: category I to read general consultative status**

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the President of the Council or the Chairman of the committee, with the consent of the relevant body, to make, in the course of the discussion of the item before the Council or before the committee, an additional statement for purposes of clarification.

Part V

CONSULTATION WITH COMMISSIONS AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE COUNCIL

Provisional agenda

26. The provisional agenda of sessions of commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council shall be communicated to organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster.

27. Organizations in category I may propose items for the provisional agenda of commissions, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall

Section 5

Consultation with Commissions and Other Subsidiary Organs of the Council

Provisional agenda

34. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**

35. **Only change: category I to read general consultative status.**

(a) **No change**

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inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments the Secretary-General may make.	
(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not later than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of the commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.	(b) **No change**
Attendance at meetings	Attendance at meetings
28. Organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.	36. Organizations in general consultative and special consultative status may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence. **These attendance arrangements may be**

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	supplemented to include modalities of participation such as hearings, roundtables, panel discussions, seminars, government dialogues with NGOs and other mechanisms.
Written statements	Written statements
29. Written statements relevant to the work of the commissions or other subsidiary organs may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Secretary-General to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs.	37. Written statements relevant to the work of the commissions or other subsidiary organs may be submitted by organizations **in accordance with the provisions outlined below** on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. **Subject to available resources,** such statements shall be circulated by the Secretary-General to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs.
30. The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:	38. **No change**

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(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages.	(a) **No change**
(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Secretary-General and the organization before circulation.	(b) **No change**
(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Secretary-General may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form.	(c) **No change**
(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the	(d) **Only change: category I to read general consultative status**

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commission or other subsidiary organs.	
(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the commission or other subsidiary organs.	(e) **Only change: category II to read special consultative status**
(f) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant commission or other subsidiary organ, or the commission of other subsidiary organ itself, may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions in sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements.	(f) **No change**

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(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Secretary-General in the working languages and, upon the request of a member of the commission or other subsidiary organ, in any of the official languages.	(g) **No change**
Hearings	Hearings
31. (a) The commission or other subsidiary organs may consult with organizations in categories I and II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization.	39. (a) **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively**
(b) On the recommendation of the Secretary-General and at the request of the commission or other subsidiary organs, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the commission or other subsidiary organs.	(b) **No change**

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Special studies	Special studies
32. Subject to the relevant rules of procedure on financial implications, a commission may recommend that an organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the commission. The limitations of paragraph 30 (d) and (e) above shall not apply in this case.	40. Subject to the relevant rules of procedure on financial implications, a commission **or other subsidiary organ** may recommend that an organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the commission. The limitations of paragraph 38 (d) and (e) above shall not apply in this case.
Part VI	Section 6
CONSULTATIONS WITH AD HOC COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL	Consultations with Ad Hoc Committees of the Council
33. The arrangements for consultation between ad hoc committees of the Council authorized to meet between sessions of the Council and organizations in categories I and II and on the Roster shall follow those approved for commissions of the Council, unless the Council or the committee decides otherwise.	41. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**

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Part VII

CONSULTATION WITH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES CALLED BY THE COUNCIL

34. The Council may invite non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and on the Roster to take part in conferences called by the Council under Article 62, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations. The organizations shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges and shall undertake the same responsibilities as at sessions of the Council itself, unless the Council decides otherwise.

Section 7

[New expanded text]

Participation of non-governmental organizations in international conferences convened by the United Nations and their preparatory process

42. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, which express their wish to attend the international conferences convened by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, and the meetings of the preparatory bodies of said conferences, shall be accredited for participation. Other non-governmental organizations wishing to be accredited may apply to the secretariat of the conference for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements.

43. The secretariat of the conference shall be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation of requests from non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the conference and its preparatory process.

44. All such applications must be accompanied by information on the

competence of the organization and the relevance of its activities to the work of the conference and its preparatory committee, with an indication of the particular areas of the conference agenda and preparations to which such competence and relevance pertain, and should include, inter alia, the following information:

(a) The purpose of the organization;

(b) Information as to the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the conference and its preparatory process and in which country or countries they are carried out;

(c) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international level;

(d) Copies of the annual reports of the organization with financial statements;

(e) A list of members of the governing body of the organization and their countries of nationality;

/...

(f) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members and their geographical distribution;

(g) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization.

45. In the evaluation of the relevance of applications of non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the conference and its preparatory process, it is agreed that a determination will be made based on their background and involvement in the subject areas of the conference.

46. Non-governmental organizations seeking accreditation shall be asked to confirm their interest in the goals and objectives of the conference.

47. In cases where the conference secretariat believes, on the basis of the information provided in accordance with the present resolution, that the organization has established its competence and the relevance of its activities to the work of the preparatory committee, it will recommend to the preparatory committee that the

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organization be accredited. In cases where the conference secretariat does not recommend the granting of accreditation, it will make available to the preparatory committee its reasons for not doing so. The conference secretariat should ensure that its recommendations are available to members of the preparatory committee at least one week prior to the start of each session.

48. The preparatory committee will decide on all proposals for accreditation within twenty-four hours after the recommendations of the conference secretariat have been taken up by the preparatory committee in plenary meeting. In the event of a decision not being taken within this period, interim accreditation shall be accorded until such time as a decision is taken.

49. A non-governmental organization that has been granted accreditation to attend a session of the preparatory committee may attend all its future sessions, as well as the conference itself.

50. In recognition of the intergovernmental nature of the conference, non-governmental organizations shall have no negotiating role in the work

of the conference and its preparatory process.

51. Relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may be given an opportunity to briefly address the preparatory committee in plenary meeting and its subsidiary bodies. Other relevant non-governmental organizations may also ask to speak briefly at such meetings. If the number of requests is too large, the preparatory committee shall request the non-governmental organizations to form themselves into constituencies, each constituency to speak through one spokesperson. Any oral intervention by a non-governmental organization should, in accordance with normal United Nations practice, be made at the discretion of the chairman and with the consent of the preparatory committee.

52. Relevant non-governmental organizations may, at their own expense, make written presentations during the preparatory process in the official languages of the United Nations as they deem appropriate. Those written presentations will not be issued as official documents except in accordance with United Nations rules of procedure.

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	53. Non-governmental organizations without consultative status that are accredited to United Nations international conferences in the economic, social and related fields and their preparatory processes, and who thereafter desire consultative status with the Economic and Social Council must apply for such status in accordance with the arrangements as set out in Section 3 above.
Part VIII SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS	Section 8 Suspension and withdrawal of consultative status
35. Organizations granted consultative status by the Council and those on the Roster shall conform at all times to the principles governing the establishment and nature of their consultative relations with the Council. In periodically reviewing the activities of NGOs on the basis of the reports submitted under paragraph 40 (b) below and other relevant information, the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations shall determine the extent to which the organizations have complied with the principles governing consultative status and have contributed to the work of the Council, and may	54. **No change**

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recommend to the Council suspension or exclusion from consultative status of organizations which have not met the requirements for consultative status as set forth in the present resolution.	
36. The consultative status of non-governmental organizations with the Economic and Social Council and the listing of those on the Roster shall be suspended up to three years or withdrawn in the following cases:	55. **No change**
(a) If there exists substantiated evidence of secret governmental financial influence to induce an organization to undertake acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;	(a) **No change**
(b) If the organization clearly abuses its consultative status by systematically engaging in unsubstantiated or politically motivated acts against States Members of the United Nations contrary to and incompatible with the principles of the Charter;	(b) **No change**

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(c) If, within the preceding three years, an organization had not made any positive or effective contribution to the work of the Council or its commissions or other subsidiary organs.	(c) If, within the preceding three years, an organization had not made any positive or effective contribution to the work **of the United Nations and, in particular,** of the Council or its commissions or other subsidiary organs.
37. The consultative status of organizations in categories I and II and the listing of those on the Roster will be suspended or withdrawn by the decision of the Economic and Social Council on the recommendation of its Committee on Non-governmental Organizations.	56. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively**
38. An organization whose consultative status or whose listing on the Roster is withdrawn may be entitled to reapply for consultative status or for inclusion on the Roster not sooner than three years after the effective date of such withdrawal.	57. **No change**

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Part IX

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

39. The members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations 1/ shall be elected at the first session of the Council each year, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, in accordance with Council resolution 1099 (XL) of 4 March 1966 and rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Council. The Committee shall elect its Chairman and other officers as necessary. A member shall serve until the next election unless it ceases to be a member of the Council.

1/ This Committee is now composed of thirteen members, in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1099 (XL) of 4 March 1966.

Section 9

Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations

58. **No change to the paragraph. The only modification applies to the footnote as follows:**

1/: This Committee is now composed of nineteen members, in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1981/50 of 20 July 1981.

OPTIONS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP:

OPTION #1

The present membership of the Committee shall be increased from 19 to 24 members, as follows: six from Africa, five from Asia, five from Latin America and the Caribbean, five from Western European and Other States and three from Eastern Europe. Elections to the Committee shall take place at the _____ organizational session of the Economic and Social Council.

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	OPTION #2 **No change. Paragraph 58 above would be deemed as sufficient text concerning the question of membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.**
40. The functions of the Committee shall include the following:	59. The functions of the Committee shall include the following: **[One new subparagraph as follows:]** **(a) The Committee shall be responsible for regular monitoring of the evolving relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. With a view to fulfilling this responsibility, the Committee shall hold, before each of its sessions, and at other times as necessary, consultations with organizations in consultative status to discuss questions of interest to the Committee or to the organizations relating to the relationship between the United Nations and the NGOs. A report on such consultations will be**

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	transmitted to the Committee for appropriate action.
(a) The Committee shall hold a session before the first session of the Council each year to consider applications for consultative status in categories I and II and for listing on the Roster made by non-governmental organizations and requests for changes in status, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council. Organizations shall give due consideration to any comments on technical matters which the Secretary-General of the United Nations may make in receiving such applications for the Committee. The Committee shall consider at each such session applications received by the Secretary-General not later than 1 June of the preceding year, on which sufficient data have been distributed to the members of the Committee not later than six weeks before the applications are to be considered. Reapplication by an organization for status, or a	(b) The Committee **shall hold a regular session before the substantive session of the Council each year starting from 1996** to consider applications for **general consultative status and special consultative status** and for listing on the Roster made by non-governmental organizations and requests for changes in status, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council. **Upon approval by the Council, the Committee may hold other meetings as required to fulfil its responsibilities as set forth in the present resolution.** Organizations shall give due consideration to any comments on technical matters which the Secretary-General of the United Nations may make in receiving such applications for the Committee. The Committee shall consider at each such session applications received by the Secretary-General not later than 1 June of the preceding year, on which sufficient data

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request for a change in status, shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest at its first session in the second year following the session at which the substance of the previous application or request was considered, unless at the time of such consideration it was decided otherwise.	have been distributed to the members of the Committee not later than six weeks before the applications are to be considered. Reapplication by an organization for status, or a request for a change in status, shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest at its first session in the second year following the session at which the substance of the previous application or request was considered, unless at the time of such consideration it was decided otherwise.
(b) Organizations in consultative status in categories I and II shall submit to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations through the Secretary-General every fourth year a brief report of their activities, specifically as regards the support they have given to the work of the United Nations. Based on findings of the Committee's examination of the report and other relevant information, the Committee may recommend to the Council any	(c) Organizations in **general consultative status and special consultative status** shall submit to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations through the Secretary-General every **fifth** year a brief report of their activities, specifically as regards the support they have given to the work of the United Nations. Based on findings of the Committee's examination of the report and other relevant information, the Committee may

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reclassification in status of the organization concerned as it deems appropriate. However, under exceptional circumstances, the Committee may ask for such a report from an individual organization in category I or II or on the Roster, between the regular reporting dates.	recommend to the Council any reclassification in status of the organization concerned as it deems appropriate. However, under exceptional circumstances, the Committee may ask for such a report from an individual organization in general consultative status or special consultative status or on the Roster, between the regular reporting dates.
(c) The Committee may consult, in connection with sessions of the Council or at such other times as it may decide, with organizations in categories I and II on matters within their competence, other than items on the agenda of the Council, on which the Council or the Committee or the organization requests consultation. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.	(d) **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**

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(d) The Committee may consult, in connection with any particular session of the Council, with organizations in categories I and II on matters within the competence of the organizations concerning specific items already on the provisional agenda of the Council on which the Council or the Committee or the organization requests consultation, and shall make recommendations as to which organizations, subject to the provisions of paragraph 25 (a) above, should be heard by the Council or the appropriate committee and regarding which subjects should be heard. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.	(e) **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively.**
(e) The Committee shall consider matters concerning non-governmental organizations which may be referred to it by the Council or by commissions.	(f) **No change**

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(f) The Committee shall consult with the Secretary-General, as appropriate, on matters affecting the consultative arrangements under Article 71 of the Charter, and arising therefrom.	(g) **No change**
	[Three new subparagraphs as follows:]
	(h) An organization which applies for consultative status should justify that it has been in existence for at least two years as at 31 December of the year preceding the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at which the application will be considered. Evidence of such existence shall be furnished to the Secretariat.
	(i) The Committee may organize panel discussions, hearings, seminars and invite experts for testimony on current and emerging issues relevant to the work of the United Nations.

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	(j) The Committee may hold theme-oriented meetings with the participation of concerned NGOs with a view to enhancing their contribution to the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies on the full range of their activities including policy analysis, advocacy and operational collaboration.
41. The Committee, in considering a request from a non-governmental organization in category I that an item be placed on the agenda of the Council, shall take into account, among other things:	**60. Only change: category I to read general consultative status**
(a) The adequacy of the documentation submitted by the organization;	**(a) No change**
(b) The extent to which it is considered that the item lends itself to early and constructive action by the Council;	**(b) No change**
(c) The possibility that the item might be more appropriately dealt with elsewhere than in the Council.	**(c) No change**

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42. Any decision by the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations not to grant a request submitted by a non-governmental organization in category I that an item be placed on the provisional agenda of the Council shall be considered as final unless the Council decides otherwise.	61. **Only change: category I to read general consultative status**
Part X CONSULTATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT	Section 10 Consultation with the Secretariat
43. The Secretariat should be so organized as to enable it to carry out the duties assigned to it concerning the consultative arrangements as set forth in the present resolution.	62. **No change**
44. All organizations in consultative relationship shall be able to consult with officers of the appropriate sections of the Secretariat on matters in which there is a mutual interest or a mutual concern. Such consultation shall be upon the request of the non-governmental organization or upon the request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.	63. **No change**

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45. The Secretary-General may request organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster to carry out specific studies or prepare specific papers, subject to the relevant financial regulations.	64. **Only change: categories I and II to read general consultative status and special consultative status, respectively**
46. The Secretary-General shall be authorized, within the means at his disposal, to offer to non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship facilities which include:	65. **No change**
(a) Prompt and efficient distribution of such documents of the Council and its subsidiary bodies as shall in the judgement of the Secretary-General be appropriate;	(a) **No change**
(b) Access to the press documentation services provided by the United Nations;	(b) **No change**
(c) Arrangement of informal discussions on matters of special interest to groups or organizations;	(c) **No change**
(d) Use of the libraries of the United Nations;	(d) **No change**

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(e) Provision of accommodation for conferences or smaller meetings of consultative organizations on the work of the Economic and Social Council;	(e) **No change**
(f) Appropriate seating arrangements and facilities for obtaining documents during public meetings of the General Assembly dealing with matters in the economic and social fields.	(f) Appropriate seating arrangements and facilities for obtaining documents during public meetings of the General Assembly dealing with matters in the economic, social **and related** fields.

[NEW SECTION]

Section 11

Secretariat support

66. Adequate Secretariat support will be required to fulfil the broader mandate defined for the Committee on Non-governmental Organizations to carry out the wider range of activities in which enhanced NGO involvement is envisaged. The Secretary-General is requested to provide all necessary resources for this purpose and to take all necessary steps for improving the coordination within the Secretariat of units dealing with NGOs.

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67. The Secretary-General is requested to make every effort to improve practical arrangements on such matters as wide and timely dissemination of information on meetings, distribution of documentation, provision of access and transparent, simple and non-bureaucratic procedures for the attendance of NGOS in United Nations meetings.